

**NEW ENGLAND LABORERS;I/CRANSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
CONSTRUCTION CAREER ACADEMY  
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**April 15, 2014**

**12:00 P.M. Executive Session**

**Public Session Immediately Following**

**4 Sharpe Drive**

**MINUTES**

**This meeting of the NEL/CPS Construction Career Academy was held on the above date in the conference room and called to order at 12:17 p.m. with the following members present: Chairman Traficante, Dr. Lundsten, Mrs. McFarland, Mr. Sabitoni, Mr. Santangelo, and Dr. Leone. Absent were Mr. Rampone, Mr. Cardi and Mr. Jacobs.**

**The members convened into executive session pursuant to R.I. State Laws PL 42-46-5(a)(1) Personnel:**

**A. Certified Administrators;I Compensation**

**B. Renewal of Contract ;V Certified Administrator**

**Call to Order ;V Public Session**

**This meeting was called to order; the roll was called. It was noted there was a quorum present. No votes were taken in executive session. Certified administrator was noticed.**

**A motion to seal the minutes of executive session was made by Dr. Lundsten, seconded by Mr. Santangelo; all were in favor.**

**Minutes of Previous Meeting(s) Approved iV February 25, 2014.**

**Moved by Mrs. McFarland, seconded by Mr. Sabitoni; all were in favor.**

<b>Public</b>	<b>Acknowledgements/Communications/Chairperson</b>
<b>Communications</b>	

**Chairperson Traficante stated I have a card from Marilyn Coppola, thanking the Board for flowers that were sent in the loss of her dad.**

**A copy of the monthly bulletin (handout #1 on file in the superintendent's office) was disbursed to the board members by Chairperson Traficante and he stated - it gives you an idea of the activities that are taking place in each of the core curriculum areas as well as in the World of Work and the Construction Technology areas. Mr. Curran writes a monthly message in this bulletin and this year I also placed a message thanking the administration, faculty and the students for their participation in the most recent site visit by RIDE and thanked them for their enthusiasm and dedication to the cause. They all did a great job.**

**Chairperson Traficante then spoke about the Kickoff Reception at the Rhode Island Foundation office in Providence and stated it was**

sponsored by the League of Charter Schools. They are hosting three or four professional development sessions (see handout #2 attached) for charter board and school committee members to attend. The Cranston School Committee did training such as this where we (the Cranston School Committee members) attended for an entire Saturday dedicated to professional development covering several topics such as ethics, legal matters, contract negotiations, recruitment, and things of this nature. Mr. Traficante encouraged members to participate in one of the sessions because of how valuable this information is.

Mr. Curran stated ¶ the first session coming up at the end of April is offered by Matt Plain. Matt Plain is an attorney who is on retainer with the Charter League in Rhode Island (we are a member of) and he comes to our board members as well at the League office and he is really a very sharp, young attorney who is very, very knowledgeable about charter school laws in Rhode Island and interfaces frequently with RIDE. He¶ is a great resource for us and I think I would expect he would put on a very good work session at the end of this month. Mr. Traficante explained parking arrangements at the Rhode Island Foundation Center.

**Board Members Communications ¶ none**

**Executive Director¶ is Communications**

**Enrollment ¶ Mr. Curran stated the first report will be on our**

enrollment status (see handout #3 attached). Highlights ¶ Mr. Pecorelli and I have been working steadfastly since early December on our projections for next years¶ enrollment. Mr. Pecorelli has done a yeoman¶'s job here in really bumping up our numbers at this point in time so for example at the bottom of this handout you will see today we had 22 students visiting us this morning from Park View Middle School and prior to that we had 24 students from Bain and Western Hills here a couple of weeks ago. At this time we have 53 applications for the fall, most of those are in 9th grade of course, and then we have a few scattered for grades 10 through 12. At this point in time typically we would have less than 10 actual applicants so we are way ahead of the curve at this point and if that trend continues then we would hope and expect that we would have a good healthy number come late August when we open up our doors for the next school year. This is all good news of course and Mr. Pecorelli and I will continue to try and get more students into the school. He has done some work with Times 2 Academy as he mentions in the report as well and that is another district charter school as you know in Rhode Island and they are in Providence. They have been sort of sistering with us if you will, in getting word out to Providence students about this school because they get a lot of applications that they cannot satisfy in their enrollment numbers and they¶'ve been sharing information about our school with those Providence students who are seeking a charter school. We think that will pay dividends. Already we have enrolled four students from Times 2 Academy this current year. The students for Times 2 Academy are selected by a

lottery. We almost had a lottery, we have 44 applications and if we had more than 45 we would have had to have a lottery for the first time. All applicants have been notified and are sending back their paperwork at this point in time. This is all good news for our enrollment for next year and I expect that when we have our last meeting in June that we will probably have a healthy number to report out to you at that point in time that we can confirm.

Monthly Update on Budget ¡V (see handout #4 attached). Mr. Curran stated ¡V Mrs. Corcelli has been working with teachers to write grants and also with some outside organizations.

Mrs. Corcelli stated ¡V I am also passing out the March report (handout #5 on file in the superintendent's office). While the March report looks good we will be expecting some less than anticipated revenues; out of district revenue and the overall revenue will be much less than what we anticipated. I am working on a quarterly adjustment which will be in next month's quarterly report. Insofar as expenses go we are holding a tight reign. We worked with Karen (Verrengia ¡V Energy Manager) and we have seen some great reductions in our kWh energy.

The first Winter Fundraiser finished with \$245 in ticket sales.

Grants ¡V I want to thank Jay (Sabitoni) for his in-kind services for our summer employment grant where the students will be doing some OSHA training.

We had a presentation with the Ocean State Transit and the League to consider some out of district bussing and at this time we are not

going to entertain any out of district busing. We will stay with the state-wide contract.

Mr. Traficante stated ¶ Mrs. Corcelli mentioned about Mr. Sabitoni's staff helping out during our summer period giving students instruction on OSHA 10 and the students becoming certified in that area. Just so you understand, we did receive and was approved at the last meeting, I attended of the Workforce Investment Council; we did receive a grant of \$31,190 for summer employment for 20 students.

Mrs. Corcelli continued ¶ the March year-to-date is very typical. It does reflect a positive variance but again when we do the report next month there will be some changes because I just wrapped up the third quarter revenues.

Audit Report ¶ (handouts 6A and 6B on file in the superintendent's office).

Mrs. Corcelli stated ¶ handout 6A is the UCOA (Uniform Chart of Accounts Compliance), they do random sampling of our budget and we were in compliance. Mrs. Corcelli explained the process of the audit to the board and reviewed the results.

It was suggested that the board members review these two reports and bring them back to the May 20th meeting for further discussion.

Amended Proposed Budget for 2014-2015 Year (see attached) ¶

**Mrs. Corcelli stated that the negative sign was not populated under benefits but it is in the original February meeting report that we had. That negative \$77,000 was on the original work sheet. As soon as we get the state aid, this proposed budget will be amended again.**

### **Focus Plan Quarterly Report**

**Mr. Curran stated that we have to do this report every three months with RIDE and the next one is coming up so Ms. Ferris will talk about where we are with that.**

**Ms. Ferris stated that we are actually in a little bit of a lull May 6th is our next one but if you remember the last quarterly we had in February, we went through all the protocols that were appropriate and the report itself and the dialog was much lighter. So we are basically staying on track, nothing has changed. We have applied the interventions and we will continue with that. We will remain in focus until at least the spring of 2015. That is the first opportunity that we are going to have get out of it.**

**Mr. Curran stated that that quarterly report meeting that we had with Andrea Castaneda at RIDE was I'd say of all the quarterly meetings we've had; it was the best most positive meeting that we have had with RIDE and they really were very complimentary of all the marks we are hitting, of all the improvements we have made in a short amount of time and that we're very effusive in the commentary which**

was nice to see and nice to feel. We're certainly trending well with our focus work here and I know there is an interplay between our focus work and our charter renewal but it's all out of the same office at RIDE and every time we meet with them we are getting good positive commentary and that is going to play well for us down the road.

Ms. Ferris stated ¶ what was clear with RIDE in February is that they are seeing we have been trending in all of the interventions that we have been putting forth and the data has been very positive but they got to see it first hand with NECAP and that's really the marker they want to see so when they saw our reading scores and writing scores they were just elated and they were actually asking us questions like how does that happen and what were you doing with that group. Honestly, state-wide, they know over the five year period, 2009 to now, we have as a high school scored and improved more than any other high school in the state so that has been duly noted and we reviewed that.

**NECAP Results ¶ (see handout #7 attached).**

Mr. Curran stated ¶ this is a brief summary. Paragraph two, our reading and writing scores improved greatly from last year and have improved even greater over the past five year span of testing. In 2009 our scores were: 35% proficient in reading vs. 79% now. In writing our scores were 5% proficient vs. 41% now. So we had a tremendous increase over time and in the next paragraph really highlights where we are as a school in the state. We had the greatest one year gain of



all secondary schools this year in our reading scores, 15% gain. All middle schools and high schools in the state and over five year gain in reading we had the greatest increase of all schools including elementary in reading. That growth is tremendous and stands us in good stead in our recharter work because as you know NECAP is an important cog in the wheels of the recharter process. That reading score alone is going to put us in a good position when we get our recharter recommendation from the commissioner and we will talk about that now.

Charter Renewal (see handout #8 attached)

Ms. Ferris stated you should have received by email yesterday the actual draft report from RIDE from our site visit. Along with that report I also sent to you the response. Part of the process that we are in right now is they send us the draft report and then we have two weeks to respond to that and correct any factual issues that we find in the draft report. That is not to say whatever they're opinion was we can disagree with different components of that but in this piece of the process we are to respond to factual changes. So what you received email-wise was the narrative piece of their report and also how we responded to that. What you have in your hands is the dashboard where you can see the sub-standards and how they were broken down. There is a comparison where on the left side it is 2011 and the right side is 2014. If you just want to go to the last page you can see where the standards are grouped together so you can see the comparison. One of the tricky things with this is the standards have

changed since 2011 and they changed for the better but it is a little bit difficult to match them up. Where you can see I have aligned them, not by numbers but instruction to instruction, curriculum to curriculum but they have gotten much more in depth and they are better in the sense that they are now including community, parents standards. We are very pleased to report out that we are in greens and yellows right now and we basically reviewed all and only one red focus point will be on the upcoming charter which is in the instruction mode. So we will be considering work there and in the type of focus work that we have been doing, you would see that all the interventions that we have put into place, it does trickle down and the last place where you would see the improved and gains would be at the instruction level so we are very much moving forward and we have improved in that area but we still have some work to go. This, as we can see, is a very positive report; a very positive step forward; comparatively to the last report out, and we are feeling this is another component piece that will help us in the recharter process.

Discussion ensued regarding professional development.

Mr. Curran explained the follow-up process to receiving this report and process of responding. Going forward, sometime in May, we will get the complete report from RIDE which will be in three parts. They look at our NECAP scores, they look at the site visit, and they look at our financial liability as an organization. They combine those three parts into one report, they will send us that report, we then take that report and we write our application based upon it. Our application is

due May 30th, the application can be 22 pages long and no longer. Those 22 pages will embody a response to the total report what we are going to work on to improve and what continued successes we are going to work on in the future. Sometime in mid-June we will get the commissioners' recommendation on our renewal and in early July there will be a RIDE board meeting work session at which time they will review the commissioners' recommendation and on July 15th they will meet to vote on our charter. That is the time-line going forward. We have a lot of work to do, we started the application process. We're not going to wait for the report. We can probably predict areas they are going to point out. We will certainly share all of that with you as we work through the process over the next couple of months. Are there any questions on charter renewal?

Dr. Leone asked "Can somebody explain to what happened with math in schools around the state? Why are we consistently so low? It is possible that the tests themselves are not valid and there may be unreasonable expectations of students?"

Discussion ensued. Mr. Santangelo (who is a math teacher) stated "We seem to want to fix our math issues by taking more time out of math curriculum. It doesn't make any sense. We test more so we take more time out of math curriculum, less instruction, and we think that is going to fix our math issues. I don't see how you can fix math issues by teaching less math. We are teaching less math because so much time being taken up by standardized testing. So, you are right Dr. Leone. Maybe the tests aren't valid, and there is just too many of

them as well.

Ms. Ferris stated "I think part of it too is there are a lot of interventions that have been put into place but this is just such a longitudinal situation here that we will not see recent benefits of what we put into place for at least five years before we start to see gains and that is because we can't fix them at the 11th grade level when they are taking a test. But school districts have reacted and we are seeing good math interventions at the elementary level but by the time they get to the test where we are going to start seeing the benefits, it's going to take a while.

Mr. Santangelo stated "our educational system works on a thirteen year cycle yet the programs never seem to survive that thirteen year cycle for various reasons. Sometimes we only have a four year president, sometimes an eight year president, and then the plans and programs change and something new comes in and the exiting program never has the opportunity to go through its full cycle where we can see whether or not it was an effective program to begin with. We keep cutting it off and starting something fresh and new again and then we continually play catch-up in education.

Dr. Lundsten stated "it's a multi-layered problem. Go back to when Catherine Ciarlo was superintendent, her mantra was "every child a reader" and that took a good ten to twelve years. We had a reading teacher in every school. Now when you look at our reading scores we look pretty good across the state. If we could say every child a mathematician, but as you said, it's not going to be a two year fix, it's going to be the long haul. Further discussion ensued with

different theories presented.

Mr. Curran continued ¶ getting back to the NECAP question ¶ I think those issues will be migrated when PARCC comes into play for all grade levels because NECAP is really a New England test and the math test is very difficult but we have no comparison to other state testing because nobody does NECAP except us. PARCC will be done in twenty-some states. We also don't know how the state is going to use PARCC for graduation requirements. On that point, just so we are clear, the current sophomores and juniors will stay in the NECAP standards. The freshmen will be the first class that will not do NECAP but will do PARCC.

A motion to accept the Executive Director's report was made by Dr. Leone and seconded by Mr. Sabitoni. All were in favor.

### Public Hearing

- a. Students (agenda/non-agenda matters) - none
- b. Members of the Public (agenda matters only) ¶ none

Consent Calendar/Consent Agenda ¶ none

Action Calendar/Action Agenda

RESOLUTIONS

PERSONNEL

**NO. 4-1-14 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Chairperson of the NEL/CPS Construction and the Career Academy Board of Directors, the Board approve the salary adjustment for the certified administrator retroactive to July 1, 2013. (See Financial Impact Analysis attached).**

**A motion to accept this resolution was made by Dr. Lundsten and seconded by Mrs. McFarland; the roll was called:**

**Mr. Santangelo no**

**Dr. Leone yes**

**Mrs. McFarland yes**

**Dr. Lundsten yes**

**Mr. Sabitoni yes**

**Mr. Traficante yes**

**The resolution passed five to one.**

**NO. 4-2-14 ¡V RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Chairperson, said certified administrator be renewed as follows:**

**Dennis Curran, Executive Director, NEL/CPS Construction  
and Career Academy**

**Contract Effective Date: July 1, 2014**

**See attached Financial Impact Analysis**

**A motion to accept this resolution was made by Mrs. McFarland and seconded by Mr. Santangelo; the roll was called:**

**Mr. Santangelo yes**

**Dr. Leone yes**

**Mrs. McFarland yes**

**Dr. Lundsten yes**

**Mr. Sabitoni yes**

**Mr. Traficante yes**

**The resolution passed unanimously.**

## **BUSINESS**

**NO. 4-3-14 - RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Chairperson, the Board of Directors accept the formal financial audit prepared by Ward, Fisher and Company, LLP for the period ending June 30, 2013.**

**A motion to table this report was made by Mrs. McFarland; seconded by Mr. Sabitoni; all were in favor to table this resolution.**

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**NO. 4-4-14 ¡V RESOLVED, that at the recommendation of the Chairperson, the following changes be made to the bylaws:**

**Amend bylaw, Article IV, Officers, Section 4, Vice Chairperson, page 11 to read as follows:**

**Section 4. Vice Chairperson. The Vice Chairperson shall: (a) ensure that the minutes of the proceedings of the Board of Directors are kept in one or more books provided for that purpose; (b) see that all notices are duly given in accordance with the provisions of these**

By-laws or as required by law; (c) be custodian of the records of the Board; be responsible for complete and accurate records of all regularly scheduled and special meetings of the Board; (d) keep a record of the post office address of each director which shall be furnished to the Vice Chairperson by such director;. e. be the authorized signatory for all invoices; f. shall sign, upon Board authorization, all warrants; g. shall keep a record of all tabled resolutions.

A motion to accept this resolution was made by Mrs. McFarland; seconded by Dr. Lundsten. All were in favor.

Mr. Curran explained ¶V we discovered in our bylaws that we didn't have the vice-chairperson having some of the rights to some signatures for any warrants for the school and we felt that was important that we have the vice-chair as well as the chair have these responsibilities so we are recommending this amendment to the language in section four.

## **BUSINESS**

### **TABLED RESOLUTION**

NO. 2-2-14- RESOLVED, at the recommendation of the Executive Director that the Board of Directors accept the preliminary proposed budget for the school year beginning July 1, 2014. (See attached).

Public Hearings on Non-Agenda Items ¶V none



## **Announcement of Future Meetings ;V May 20, 2014**

### **Adjournment**

**There being no further business to come before this board a motion to adjourn was made by Mr. Sabitoni; seconded by Dr. Leone. All were in favor. The meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.**

**Respectfully submitted,**

**Michael A. Traficante  
Chairperson**

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## **NEL/CPS CONSTRUCTION & CAREER ACADEMY PROPOSED OPERATING BUDGET 2014 -15, Amended 3/22/14**

**ACTUAL CURRENT PROPOSED \$ %**

### **REVENUE**

	<b>2012-2013</b>	<b>2013-2014</b>	<b>2014-2015</b>	<b>VARIANCE</b>	<b>VARIANCE</b>
<b>STATE AID</b>	<b>1,255,888</b>	<b>1,233,644</b>	<b>1,181,760</b>	<b>-51,884</b>	<b>-4.21%</b>
<b>CRANSTON CITY AID</b>	<b>623,426</b>	<b>613,204</b>	<b>643,200</b>	<b>29,996</b>	<b>4.89%</b>
<b>OD</b>					
		<b>REGULAR</b>			<b>EDUCATION</b>
	<b>579,210</b>	<b>657,000</b>	<b>578,394</b>	<b>-78,606</b>	<b>-11.96%</b>
<b>OD SPECIAL EDUCATION</b>	<b>115,114</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>0.00%</b>
<b>ADULT ED REVENUE</b>	<b>164,399</b>	<b>123,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>-123,000</b>	<b>-100.00%</b>

CREDIT RECOVERY	0	0	10,000	10,000	0.00%
REIMBURSED EXPENSES	138,836	0	0	0	0.00%
TOTAL REVENUES	2,876,873	2,626,848	2,413,354	-213,494	-8.13%
ACTUAL	CURRENT	PROPOSED	\$		

## EXPENDITURES

	2012-2013	2013-2014	2014-2015	VARIANCE	VARIANCE
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR	101,000	101,000	102,010	1,010	1.00%
ASSISTANT PRINCIPAL	75,644	87,411	88,285	874	1.00%
RECR/ASST TO EXEC DIR	40,000	35,000	0	-35,000	-100.00%
FISCAL MANAGER	60,000	70,000	70,700	700	1.00%
JOB PLACEMENT SPECIALIST	73,710	73,900	74,447	547	0.74%
SCIENCE	110,473	117,984	88,084	-29,900	-25.34%
MATH	183,718	193,359	176,444	-16,915	-8.75%
SOC STUDIES	130,554	136,789	74,639	-62,150	-45.43%
NURSE	0	0	0	0	0.00%
ENGLISH	138,089	169,020	150,082	-18,938	-11.20%
ART	41,650	44,358	59,642	15,284	34.46%
PHYSICAL EDUCATION	99,304	73,931	59,642	-14,289	-19.33%
TECHNOLOGY	75,698	77,998	77,220	-778	-1.00%
REIMBURSED TRANS/GUID	83,369	0	0	0	0.00%
INSTRUCTORS AM/PM	25,575	28,200	7,200	-21,000	-74.47%
PORT PREP COORD	26,250	21,870	0	-21,870	-100.00%
TEACHER SUBSTITUTES	15,964	18,000	18,000	0	0.00%
CHARTER INSTRUCTORS	235,135	242,190	249,456	7,266	3.00%
TRANSFORMATION SERVICES	0	53,750	53,750	0	0.00%
SECRETARY	39,067	36,836	36,836	0	0.00%

CLERICAL SUPPORT	0	18,800	13,300	-5,500	-29.26%
CUSTODIANS	25,744	34,171	40,508	6,337	18.54%
BENEFITS/PAYROLL					
TAXES	382,347	483,461	405,520	77,941	-16.12%
RETIREE HEALTH BENEFITS	0	3,000	3,000	0	0.00%
EMP ASSIST PROG	160	160	160	0	0.00%
RENT	219,454	219,454	219,454	0	0.00%
PURCHASED SERVICES - UBIO	22,685	28,500	26,250	-2,250	-7.89%
PURCHASED SERVICES	21,120	28,100	71,100	43,000	153.02%
FIELD TRIPS	704	1,500	3,300	1,800	120.00%
VIRTUAL LEARNING	4,000	0	0	0	0.00%
UTILITIES: Elec,Heat,Phone	53,608	48,625	51,900	3,275	6.70%
PROP & SEWER TAXES	61,511	57,448	62,625	5,177	9.01%
INS: PROPERTY	22,942	20,355	20,800	445	2.20%
LEGAL	15,054	6,000	11,000	5,000	83.33%
ANNUAL AUDIT	10,000	7,000	7,000	0	0.00%
SPECIAL ED SERV REIMB	115,114	0	0	0	0.00%
REPAIRS & MAINTENANCE	0	1,500	2,500	1,000	66.67%
EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE	657	750	0	-750	-100.00%
SNOW REMOVAL	530	1,000	1,000	0	0.00%
FEES & DUES (INTERSCHOLASTIC)	1,585	1,900	2,300	400	21.05%
SPECIAL PROGRAMS	21,721	9,500	9,250	-250	-2.63%
STUDENT ACTIVITY STIPENDS	15,400	8,550	5,600	-2,950	-34.50%
PROF DEV	4,011	6,000	8,000	2,000	33.33%
CLASSROOM SUPPLIES	3,000	9,300	6,950	-2,350	-25.27%
P.E. SUPPLIES	0	500	0	-500	-100.00%

ADULT ED SUPPLIES	16,612	10,028	0	-10,028	-100.00%
CHARTER OFFICE SUPPLIES	8,478	8,500	8,500	0	0.00%
CUSTODIAL SUPPLIES	723	900	900	0	0.00%
CAPITAL OUTLAY	22,518	18,000	34,000	16,000	88.89%
WEBSITE UPGRADES	100	250	0	-250	-100.00%
CLASSROOM IMPROVEMENTS	10,560	12,000	12,000	0	0.00%
TOTAL					
EXPENDITURES	2,615,538	2,626,848	2,413,354	-213,494	-8.13%
BUDGET VARIANCE	261,335	0	0	0	

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## Administrator's Compensation Schedule

## Administrator's Compensation Schedule

Fiscal Year 2013-2014

NAME	POSITION	SCHOOL	ANN	SALARY
HEALTH	DENTAL	LIFE	PENSION	SURV
BEN	OASDI	MEDICARE	TOTAL	Fringe Sal & Fringe
Curran, Dennis	Director	Charter	103,020.00 13893 1005 25	15,381
96	0	1494	31,894	134,914

## Administrator's Compensation Schedule

**Fiscal Year 2014-2015**

**NAME POSITION SCHOOL ANN**

**SALARY HEALTH DENTAL LIFE PENSION SURV**

**BEN OASDI MEDICARE TOTAL Fringe Sal & Fringe**

Curran, Dennis	Director Charter	103,020.00	14310	1035	25	16,257
96 0	1493.79	33,216.35				136,236

**Administrator's Compensation Schedule**

**Fiscal Year 2015-2016**

**NAME POSITION SCHOOL ANN**

**SALARY HEALTH DENTAL LIFE PENSION SURV**

**BEN OASDI MEDICARE TOTAL Fringe Sal & Fringe**

Curran, Dennis	Director Charter	103,020.00	14310	1035	25	16,504
96 0	1493.79	33,463.59				136,484

**HANDOUT #2**

**Charter Leaders: Please reach out to your board members and**

**encourage them to register for the free board trainings, the first of which is Tuesday, April 29th.**

**Registration links below:**

**Legal & Ethical Issues**

**Tuesday, April 29, 2014 from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM**

**Governing to Promote Fiscally Strong Charter Public Schools**

**Tuesday, September 23, 2014 from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM**

**Board Recruitment, Succession Planning, and Board/School Leader Relationships**

**Wednesday, October 29, 2014 from 5:30 PM to 7:30 PM**

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**HANDOUT #3**

**Date of Board of Directors Meeting: Tuesday, April 15, 2014**

**Department/Committee Reporting: Admissions**

**Author: Richard Pecorelli**

**Approved By (Executive Director):**

**Background/ Context:**

**Over the past month, many parents and students have taken tours of the Academy. Most of these prospective enrollees were interested in our programs and requested applications for September enrollment.**

**On March 10, I visited Times2 Academy in Providence. The reason for my visit was to share an informational C&CA flyer and to promote our admission's availability. (Times2 received 1,501 applications for 50 openings. Their administration was generous enough to enclose our flyers in all their letters of non-acceptance).**

**On March 21, the Times2 Principal, Admission's Director and School Counselor visited the Academy. The information gathered from that visit prompted Times2 to recommend four students for immediate enrollment.**

**On March 25, about 24 students from Bain and Western Hills Middle Schools visited the Academy. These visitors were able to see our teachers and students in action. Some of those visiting had previously committed to attending in the fall, and a number of visitors were prospective students.**

**Today, about 22 students from Park View Middle School visited the Academy.**

**As of today, I have received 53 applications for fall enrollment (forty-five for grade 9, four for gr 10, three for grade 11 and one for**

grade 12).

**Key issues for consideration:**

**Recommendation to the Board:**

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#### **HANDOUT #4**

**Date of Board of Directors Meeting: April 15, 2014**

**Department/Committee Reporting: Financial Development**

**Author: C. Corcelli**

**Approved By (Executive Director):**

**Background/ Context:**

**Operating Budget as of 3/31/2014**

**Revenue:**

**„X State and City Aid revenue reflect typical results**

**„X Out-of-District tuition accounts receivable resolved**

**„X Out-of-District tuition expected 12% less by year end**

**„X Overall revenue expected 6% less by year end**

**Expenditures:**

**„X Third Quarter Year End Budget Adjustments scheduled for next month**

**„X October installation of auto-thermostats by Karen Verrengia**



**already reflect kWh energy savings:**

**kWh 2011-2013 average 2014 THERM 2011-2013 average 2014**

**January 19,840 16,320 16,320 1,574 1,329**

**February 18,880 14,640 14,640 1,315 1,230**

**March 17, 973 16,560 16,560 916 n/a**

**Key issues for consideration:**

**Financial Development Opportunities:**

**„X First Winter Fundraiser Calendar Raffle with Student Council and World of Work Students, completed February 28, 2014, ticket sales of \$245**

**„X In process: Workforce Solutions of Providence/Cranston summer employment grant submitted**

**„X In process: Target grant submitted, Project Artwear**

**„X Mini-grant, „Art is Smart“ declined, to be resubmitted FY15**

**Recommendation to the Board:**

**„X March 26 presentation from Ocean State Transit and Flahive Consulting as part of League transportation proposal for out-of-district students. Ocean State pricing is \$263.55 per 65 passenger bus, which outbid First Student at \$323.99. In reviewing our enrollment numbers, transportation needs, and proposed costs, we do not anticipate that our out-of-district students will require bus service for the upcoming school year. Going forward, we will certainly monitor any requests and re-visit transportation needs.**

**„X March 18 attended League meeting hosted by Arthur J. Gallagher Insurance, offering coverage needs to charter schools.**

## **HANDOUT #7**

**Executive Director's NECAP report: April 15, 2014**

**Brief summary of 2013 NECAP results:**

**We have just received NECAP results for the school and results for the District and State. Although we believed our results were good, we now have the comparisons available to see how we fared relative to the District and State. We have much data to review over the next few weeks but a quick look at the data tells us:**

**Our Reading and Writing scores improved greatly from last year and have improved even greater over the past 5 year span of testing. In 2009 our scores were: 35% Proficient in reading vs 79% now. In writing our scores were 5% proficient vs 41% now.**

**Comparing these scores to the District and State, our reading scores this year showed the greatest 1-year gain of all secondary schools in the State( 15% points) and looking at the 5-year gain we had the**

**largest increase of all schools in the State (31%).**

**Our math scores flat lined at 12% although over 5 years we have improved from 3% proficient. The District and State also showed no measurable gain in math proficiency.**

**Importantly, we closed the gap among the sub groups of special education students and economically disadvantaged students vs the general education population of students. For example, 94% of our economically disadvantaged students were proficient in reading whereas for the District that number was 80% and for the State, 72%. This is extremely important because in our Focus work and our re-charter work, the State looks at how these sub groups are doing and if we are closing the gap in these scores. This data shows that we clearly are doing that and we are doing it quickly.**

**All of this good news comes at a great time for us as we just finished our RIDE visit and the NECAP scores this year are a key ingredient in the evaluation protocol used for re-charter decisions. Additionally, much of the work in Focus is related to improving student results in assessments.**

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## **HANDOUT #8**

### **Renewal Site Visit Report**

#### **Comparison of 2011 and 2014**

**2011 2014**

## **2.1 Leadership Does not meet the standard 2.1**

**Leadership Approaches the standard**

**Board: Does not meet the indicator Board: Establish standards for student learning Approaches the indicator**

**School Leader: Approaches the indicator Establish standards for overall management Approaches the indicator**

**Support implementation of mission. MEETS the indicator**

**Holds school leader(s) accountable. Approaches the indicator**

**Ensures effective fiscal oversight MEETS the indicator**

**Operates in compliance with the plan for governance in its charter MEETS the indicator**

**School Leader:**

**1. Ensures mission is fully implemented MEETS the indicator**

**2. Curriculum Approaches the indicator**

**3. Assessment and Data Approaches the indicator**

**4. Plan for Improvement MEETS the indicator**

**5. Evaluation MEETS the indicator**

**6. Professional Development and Common Planning Time Approaches the indicator**

**7. School Environment MEETS the indicator**

**8. Fiscal Approaches the indicator**

**2.2 Math Curriculum Does not meet the standard 2.2 Curricula for Core Content Areas MEETS the indicator**

**A. Alignment Does not meet the indicator A. Alignment MEETS the indicator**

**B. BEP Approaches the indicator B. Documentation MEETS the indicator**

**C. Revision Process Approaches the indicator C. Design Approaches the indicator**

**D. CPT & PD Approaches the indicator D. Review/Revision Approaches the indicator**

**2.3 English Curriculum Approaches the Standard**

**A. Alignment: Does not meet the indicator**

**B. ELA across curriculum MEETS the indicator**

**C. Faculty Participation MEETS the indicator**

**D. Clear expectations for students Does not meet the indicator**

**E. ELA curriculum works Does not meet the indicator**

**F. Revision process Approaches the indicator**

**2.4 Instructional Strategies Implemented Does not meet the standard 2.3 Instructional Strategies Implemented Approaches the standard**

**A. Instructional Strategies Implemented Approaches the indicator A. Instructional Strategies Approaches the indicator**

**B. Instructional Strategies Work Does not meet the indicator B. Implementation Does not meet the indicator**

**C. Classroom Environment Approaches the indicator C Support: CPT & PD Approaches the indicator**

**2.4 Recruit, support and retain highly effective staff MEETS the standard**

**A. Policies and Strategies MEETS the indicator**

**B. Mission MEETS the indicator**

**C. Staff Support Approaches the indicator**

**D. Evaluation MEETS the indicator**

**E. Staff Retention Approaches the indicator**

**2.5 Engage Families and Communities MEETS the standard**

**A. Communication MEETS the indicator**

**B. Parent/Guardian and Community Input Approaches the indicator**

**C. Staff Responsiveness Approaches the indicator**

**2.6 Provides safe, healthy, and supportive learning environment Approaches the standard**

**A. Supplemental Supports and Intervention Approaches the indicator**

**B. Safety and Security Approaches the indicator**

**2.7 Use information to improve results Approaches the standard**

**A. Qualitative and Quantitative Data Approaches the indicator**

**B. Comprehensive Assessment System Approaches the indicator**

**2.8 All stakeholders share a common understanding of the school's mission MEETS the standard**

**2011 2014**

**2.1 Leadership 2.1 Leadership**

**2.2 Math Curriculum 2.2 Curriculum**

**2.3 ELA Curriculum 2.3 Instructional Strategies**

**2.4 Instructional Strategies 2.4 Recruit, support & retain staff**

**2.5 Engage families and communities**

**2.6 Provide safe, healthy, and supportive learning environment**

**2.7 Use information to improve results**

**2.8 Common understanding among stakeholders of mission**